

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are all the claims presently pending in the application. Claim 1 is amended to more clearly define the invention. Claims 1, 3, 7, 11, and 17 are independent.

Applicant appreciates the courtesies extended to the Applicant's representative during a personal interview on April 18, 2005. During the personal interview, Applicant's representative explained that the Davis reference does not teach or suggest the features of the claimed invention including a computer, which when voltages given to first and second ports are equal to or higher than a predetermined threshold, determining the input signal to have a high level, when the voltage given to the first port is equal to or higher than the threshold and the voltage given to said second port is lower than the threshold, making a same determination as an immediately preceding determination, and when the voltages given to the first and second ports are lower than the predetermined threshold, determining the input signal to have a low level. In this manner, the present invention provides a hysteresis characteristic setting circuit that includes fewer components than conventional hysteresis characteristic setting circuits.

Indeed, Applicant's representative explained that the method and apparatus for initializing a microprocessor to insure fault-free operation as disclosed by the Davis reference has absolutely nothing to do with setting a hysteresis characteristic, let alone a device for setting a hysteresis characteristic that includes a computer, which when voltages given to first and second ports are equal to or higher than a predetermined threshold, determining the input signal to have a high level, when the voltage given to the first port is equal to or higher than the threshold and the voltage given to said second port is lower than the threshold, making a same determination as an immediately preceding determination, and when the voltages given

to the first and second ports are lower than the predetermined threshold, determining the input signal to have a low level.

During the personal interview, Examiner Lau requested an amendment to claim 1 to clarify that the second port is separate from the first port. Examiner Lau agreed that the Davis reference does not teach or suggest this feature.

This Amendment amends claim 1 in accordance with Examiner Lau's very helpful suggestion.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, and the agreement reached during the personal interview, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-22, all the claims presently pending in the Application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the Application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

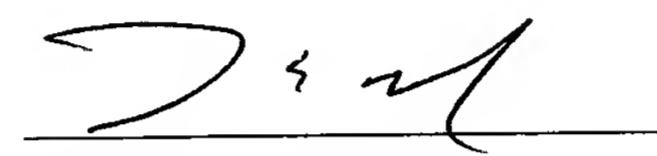
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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully Submitted,

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